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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: CVT AND LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS

1. THE NUMBER OF OFFICIALS OF THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (CVT) WHO WILL RUN FOR THE LOWER HOUSE IS STILL NOT CERTAIN. CURRENTLY MORE THAN 20 OF THEM ARE IN THE RACE, BUT SOME WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DROP OUT OR GET PUSHED OUT BY PROVINCIAL SCREENING COMMITTEES. DISQUALIFICATION HAS ALREADY BEEN THE FATE OF ONE IMPORTANT CVT CANDIDATE--VO VAN DAU, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CVT AND PRESIDENT OF THE PHONG DINH COUNCIL OF UNIONS. DAU IS A TWO-TIME LOSER: HE WAS ON THE CVT SENATORIAL SLATE THAT WAS DISQUALIFIED.

(1)

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2. FOUR MEMBERS OF THAT ILL-FATED SENATORIAL SLATE REMAIN AS

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LOWER HOUSE CANDIDATES: NGO KHUONG, ACTING PREIDENT OF THE CVT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL IN BINH DINH; TA NGOC TUONG, PRESIDENT OF THE CVT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL IN BINH DUONG; LE HOANG CHUONG, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF PLANTATION WORKERS, WHO IS RUNNING IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE; AND PHAN VAN HOC, PRESIDENT OF THE CVT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL IN DINH TUONG.

3. ACCORDING TO A LIST OBTAINED FROM THE CVT NATIONAL SECRETARIAT, OTHER CVT CANDIDATES ARE RUNNING IN THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUENCIES:

SAIGON: TRAN NGOC CAN, MEMBER OF THE LOCAL UNION AT AIR VIETNAM, AND NGUYEN VAN TANH, CVT HEADQUARTERS STAFFER.

GIADINH: NGUYEN HUU QUANG, PRESIDENT OF HOTEL AND RESTAURANT WORKERS UNION; NGUYEN VAN PHONG, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY OF SAIGON CVT COUNCIL; AND NGUYEN TRUNG THO, PRESIDENT OF HANDI-CRAFT WORKERS UNION.

TAY NINH: MRS. NGUYEN THI SEN, OFFICER OF CVT SOCIAL CENTERS.

AN GIANG: LE TU HAI, LIAISON OFFICER FOR HOA HAO WORKERS.

CHAU DOC: TRAN QUOC KHANH, GENERAL INSPECTOR OF CVT INSURANCE COMPANY AND BROTHER OF CVT PRESIDENT BUU.

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KIEN GIANG: THAI VAN SOM, PRESIDENT OF CVT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF KIEN GIANG.

VINH LONG: TRAN VAN CHIEU, LOCAL CVT PRESIDENT, AND NGUYEN VAN MAU, CVT JOURNALIST.

KHANH HOA: TU DAM, VICE PRESIDENT OF CVT PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF KHANH HOA.

HUE: TRAN MINH TRI, FOUNDER OF LOCAL UNION MOVEMENT.

DANANG: NGUYEN BUOI, FORMER NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, NOW MANAGER OF THE CVT PRINT SHOP IN SAIGON.

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QUANG NGAI: BUU CHIEM: PRESIDENT OF TRANSPORT WORKERS LOCAL UNION.

PLEIKU: TRAN VAN HAU, CVT REPRESENTATIVE IN PLEIKU.

BIEN HOA: VU QUANG LAN, REPRESENTATIVE OF PLANTATION WORKERS FEDERATION, AND MAI QUOC THAI, REPRESENTATIVE OF OIL WORKERS UNION.

BINH LONG: DINH VAN PHU, REPRESENTATIVE OF PLANTATION WORKERS.

4. TWO OTHER LOWER HOUSE CANDIDATES, WHILE NOT CVT MEMBERS, HAVE THE NATIONAL CVT'S BLESSING: BUI MINH QUANG, A PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVANT, RUNNING IN HAU NGHIA PROVINCE, AND TON THAT NGHIEM, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER, RUNNING IN VINH BINH PROVINCE.

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5. SOME OF THE CVT-ENDORSED CANDIDATES WILL ALSO GET THE SUPPORT OF THE FARMER-WORKER-VETERAN BLOC, HEADED BY RETIRED GENERAL TRAN VAN DON. THOSE WHO WILL BE THUS DOUBLY BLESSED HAVE NOT YET BEEN CHOSEN. BUU ESTIMATES THAT THERE WILL BE A HARD CORE OF SIX CVTERS WHOM BOTH THE CVT AND THE FARMER-WORKER-VETERANGROUP WILL PUSH WHOLEHEARTE LY.

6. THE CVT DID NOT PROVIDE THE RELIGIOUS AFFILIATON OF THE 20-ODD PERSONS ON IZ LIST. "WE DON'T KNOW THEIR RELIGIONS," ONE CVT STAFFER CLAIMED.

7. THEORETICALLY, PROVINCIAL LEADERS OF THE CVT SHOULD NOT STAND FOR ELECTION WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE. HOWEVER, SOME MAY DO SO IN ANY CASE.

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